

Serial No.: 10/058,096

REMARKS

The present U.S. patent application (U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/058,963) was filed on January 28, 2002 and claimed priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Nos. 60/264,574 (the '574 application) and 60/340,802 (the '802 application) along with the following nonprovisional patent applications (as listed in the original application):

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. aa/bbb,ccc entitled "THIN FILM ELECTROPHORESIS APPARATUS AND METHOD" filed on January 14, 2002; and

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. xx/yyy,yyy entitled "NANOPOROUS MEMBRANE REACTOR FOR MINIATURIZED REACTIONS AND ENHANCED REACTION KINETICS" filed on January 14, 2002.

When the present application was filed on January 28, 2002, the serial numbers for the priority nonprovisional cases that were both filed on January 14, 2002 had yet to be issued and therefore the placeholders "aa/bbb,ccc" and "xx/yyy,yyy" were inserted.

An original unsigned Declaration and Power of Attorney was filed on January 28, 2002 with the present application. The unsigned Declaration and Power of

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Attorney listed as priority documents the application numbers of the two provisional applications (the '574 and '802 applications) and listed the filing date and pending status of the two nonprovisional applications that were filed on January 14, 2002 to which serial numbers had not yet been issued.

A first filing receipt was mailed from the USPTO on March 25, 2002 which noted the domestic priority data as claiming the benefit of provisional number 60/264,574 filed January 26, 2001 and provisional number 60/340,802 filed December 14, 2001. The two nonprovisional applications were not listed on this filing receipt.

In response to a Notice to File Missing Parts, an updated executed Declaration and Power of Attorney was submitted on May 27, 2002. This updated Declaration did state the priority applications as the two provisional applications (the '574 and '802 applications) and also for the first time listed the newly acquired serial numbers for the two nonprovisional applications (10/047,461 and 10/047,438).

An Updated Filing Receipt was sent from the USPTO on July 1, 2002 which again only listed the domestic priority data as the two provisional applications (the '574 and the '802 applications) and did not list the two nonprovisional applications (10/047,461 and 10/047,438).

It was recently discovered that while the serial numbers and filing dates of the priority nonprovisional applications were filed with the updated Declaration and Power of Attorney documents submitted to the USPTO on May 27, 2002 (within the 4

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month filing period of the application's filing date of January 28, 2002), the USPTO apparently did not recognize the new priority information.

Therefore, while the appropriate priority information was filed on the updated executed Declaration and Power of Attorney submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on May 27, 2002, this information was never entered by Amendment into the patent application specification.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in proper condition for allowance, and an early notice to such effect is earnestly solicited.

If any small matter should remain outstanding after the Patent Examiner has had an opportunity to review the above Remarks, the Patent Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned patent attorney in order to resolve these matters and avoid the issuance of another Official Action.

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DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

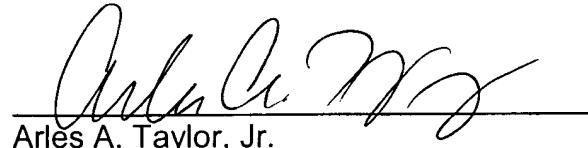
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with the filing of this correspondence to Deposit Account No. 50-0426.

Respectfully submitted,

JENKINS, WILSON & TAYLOR, P.A.

Date: 01/29/2004

By:


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1392/10/17/2/2 AAT/EEM/cht

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